

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FSE-00 /011 R

WORLD AIRWAYS, INC., 888 - 17TH ST., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20006

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:PDMOLINEAUX:LB

APPROVED BY NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

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R 280154Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANA

UNCLAS STATE 048497

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, YE

SUBJECT: WORLD AIRWAYS INTERESTED PARTY MESSAGE

1. PLEASE PASS TO MR. RANSOM "MR. BERBOTH TODAY RELAYED BY PHONE FROM MALTA YOUR MESSAGE TO HIM OF 25 FEB AND I AWAIT RECEIPT FROM HIM OF HARD COPY FROM MALTA. MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR INFORMATIVE MESSAGE AND I HAVE FOLLOWING COMMENTS.

2. ALTHOUGH BERBOTH SOUGHT OPPORTUNITY FOR MEETING ATHENS WITH SHAIK FOR 21/22, HE WAS ADVISED THAT BECAUSE OF PREOCCUPATION WITH BOEING PURCHASE NEGOTIATIONS AND AIR BRITANNIA DISCUSSIONS FOR LEASE EXTENSION SHAIK AND OTHERS TIME IN ATHENS COMMITTED. THROUGH BOEING HE WAS ADVISED THAT PURCHASE AGREEMENT WAS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED 21 FEB. IN ATHENS, AND SAUDI OFFICIALS PRESENT IN ATHENS

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INDICATED SAUDI SUPPORT TO FINANCING REQUIREMENT. SHAIK ADVISED BERBOTT THROUGH BOEING THAT HIS FIRST PREFERENCE FOR INTERIM WET LEASE WAS AN EXTENSION OF THE BRITANNIA

737 ARRANGEMENT BEYOND 30 APRIL BUT PRICE WAS STILL
UNRESOLVED ISSUE. IT WAS INDICATED THAT BRITTANIA
DISCUSSIONS WOULD BE CONTINUED IN SANAA 25 FEB. AND IF

BRITTANIA EXTENSION NOT CONSUMMATED MEETING WITH
WORLD AIRWAYS WOULD BE REQUESTED AGAIN IN SANAA. WHETHER
WORLD CAN REDUCE RATE FROM LAST OFFER VERY DOUBTFUL
BUT MATTER UNDER REVIEW. DELAY IN FIRM DECISION HAS
ESCALATED COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING THE OPERATION BY 01 MAY
1976.

3. WE CONSTRUE FROM YOUR REPORT THAT BRITTANIA EXTENSION
NOT CONCLUDED AND THEREFORE TIMELY FOR WORLD TEAM TO
VISIT SANAA ASAP. BERBOTH/HUGHES EXPECT COMPLETE MALTA
MEETING 27 FEB. WHICH SHOULD ENABLE THEM TO PROCEED TO
SANAA TO CONCLUDE 727 LEASE BEGINNING WEEK OF 1 MARCH.

4. PLEASE CONVEY FOREGOING INFORMATION TO MINISTERS
ASNAG AND JEGHMAN AND CONFIRM WHETHER MEETINGS AS PROPOSED
WILL BE CONVENIENT TO YAR. B. COOKE. WORLD AIR." INGERSOLL

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